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EXCISE

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Action: EUR
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PRIORITY

Control 7475

Rec'd March 16, 1950
8:31 a.m

FROM: Brussels

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 416, March 16, 1 p.m.

As crisis over Royal question continues, uneasiness grows in Brussels, although there is no fear of civil disturbance and country is calm though increasingly curious as to outcome. Latest developments are journey to Geneva of Liberal Ministers Rey and Libaerts with Motz who is President of Liberal Party. Also present at Geneva are Senator Hoste, pro-Leopold Liberal and Ernest Solmay, rich Liberal industrialist who has contributed heavily to Leopold's campaign funds.

Current rumor this morning in Brussels is that attempts are being made to form a new PSC Liberal Cabinet with Reconstruction Minister Rey, who favors abdication, to be replaced by Hoste.

[redacted] informed Embassy representative at 12:45 p.m. that King had taken his decision and that he had decided to return.

MURPHY

MAM:ECW

Note: Mr. Winfree's office (WE) notified 11 am, 3-16, CWC-FEL

755.00/3-1650

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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